

3. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim 1 [or 2],
characterized in that a handpiece is provided in which [said] a drive unit is
accommodated.

4. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1,
characterized in that [a rotating inner blade and] a stationary [outer] blade [are]
is provided outside the rotating blade.

5. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim 4,
characterized in that the gap between said [inner] stationary blade and said
[outer] rotating blade constitutes the irrigation passage.

6. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim [4] 1,
characterized in that said irrigation passage is disposed in the instrument[s] in a
non-symmetrical arrangement.

7. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim [6] 5,
characterized in that said irrigation passage is disposed on said outer blade.

8. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 4] Claim 1,
characterized in that a hollow shaft is provided into which said blade and the
tube attached thereto are inserted so as to form said irrigation passage between
said tube and said shaft.

10. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim 8 [or 9],
characterized in that said hollow shaft is [detachable] detachably fastened on
said handpiece.

Page 3

Applicant: Karl Storz, et al.

May 20, 1998

11. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 10] Claim 1,
characterized in that the irrigation liquid passed through said irrigation passage
is exhausted through said suction passage without entering the body cavity into
which the instrument is introduced.

¹⁰
12. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 11] Claim 1,
characterized in that said suction passage is flared from the distal towards the
proximal end.

⁹
13. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 12] Claim 8,
characterized in that [the abrasive or] a cutting region is provided laterally on
said blade, and that [the] a face of said hollow shaft extends obliquely along the
direction of [the] a longitudinal axis.

¹¹
14. (Amended) Instrument according to Claim [13] 1,
characterized in that [the] a discharge opening for the irrigation liquid is so
designed that at least [the] a bulk volume of the irrigation liquid is discharged in
[the] a region which does not serve for [abrasion or] cutting.

¹³
15. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 14] Claim 1,
characterized in that the] by providing [proximally] proximal [provided]
connectors for said suction and irrigation passages [are coaxially designed].

¹²
16. (Amended) Instrument according to [any of the Claims 1 to 14] Claim 15,
characterized in that the proximally provided connectors for said suction and
irrigation passages are configured to be adjacent to each other.